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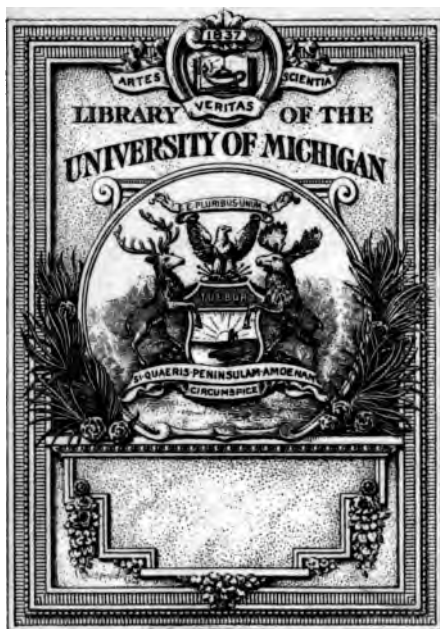
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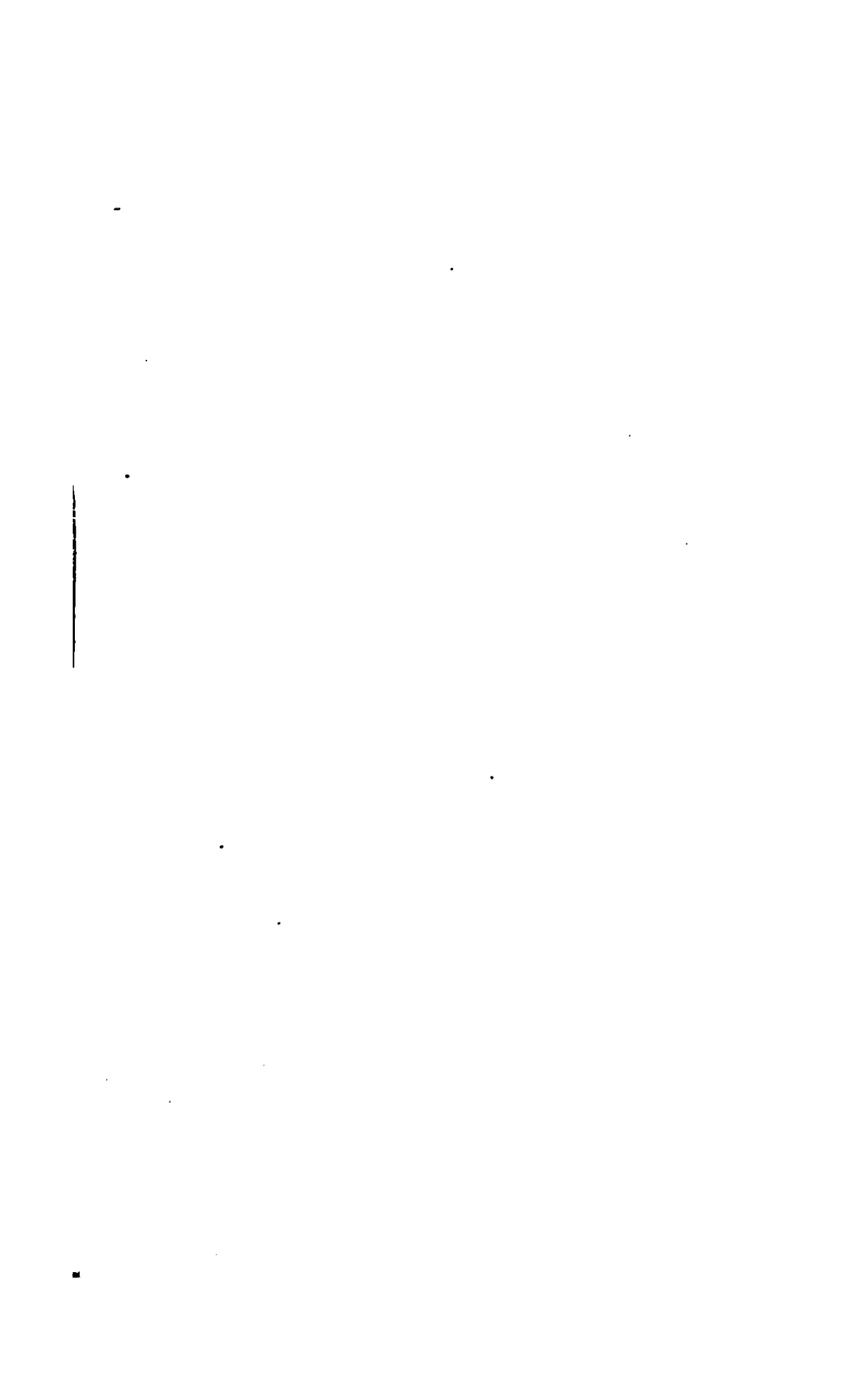
a course of reading



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## COURSE OF READING,

DRAWN UP BY THE

HON. JAMES KENT,

(Late Chancellor of the State of New-York.)

FOR THE USE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MERCANTILE  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

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"This roving humor I have ever had, and like a ranging spaniel that barks at every bird he sees, leaving his game, I have followed all, saving that which I should, and may justly complain and truly, that I have read many books, but to little purpose, for want of good method. I have confusedly tumbled over diverse authors in our libraries with small profit, for want of art, order, memory and judgment."—*Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy*, Vol. I.

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NEW-YORK:  
WILEY AND PUTNAM.  
.....  
1840.

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2 Jan 1845

*Mercantile Library Association,* }  
*New-York, Feb. 10th, 1840.* }

To the

Hon. JAMES KENT,

New-York.

DEAR SIR,

A MAJORITY of the members of this Association enter their profession in early life, without that guidance to a judicious course of study which is enjoyed by those who have had collegiate instruction. In the formation of a correct taste, and the avoidance of much mental dissipation, it is important that a selection of authors should be placed before them, by an authority which from its dignity, wisdom and experience, shall insure their respect and confidence. Allow me, therefore, Sir, to ask in the name of the Association, whether it will be agreeable to you at some leisure hour to prepare a list of such works in English literature, as you may deem best suited for their use? Trusting that you will pardon the freedom of the request,

I am, dear sir, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

AUG. E. SILLIMAN,

*President.*



NEW-YORK, *March 10th*, 1840.

DEAR SIR,

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of your letter of the 10th ult., in which, as President of the Mercantile Library Association, you request me at my leisure to prepare a list of books in English literature, which I may deem calculated for the use of those young gentlemen of the Association, who entered their profession in early life, without the guidance afforded by collegiate instruction.

It has given me pleasure to comply with the request, and I now send you a catalogue of select books all appearing in the English language, and adapted, in my judgment, to the diversified tastes and wishes of the members of your Association. I have taken the liberty to add some brief notice of the merits of those works, of which I thought some explanation might be useful or agreeable. Most of the works appear in the Catalogue you sent me, and which, amounting to twenty-three thousand volumes, does honor to your institution, and is a noble monument of its judgment, taste and liberality.

I beg leave to say that I have not placed any works on the Catalogue that I am not in some degree acquainted with, and know their relative value. Indeed, I may say that eighteen-twentieths of them are in my own library, the gradual accumulation of the last fifty years.

I am, dear Sir,

With much respect,

Your obt. Svt.

JAMES KENT.

AUGUSTUS E. SILLIMAN,

*President of the Mercantile Library Association.*

At a meeting of the Board of Direction of the Mercantile Library Association, on Saturday evening, March 14th, 1840, it was

*Resolved*, That for the invaluable guide to a judicious "Course of Reading," which Chancellor KENT has furnished for the members of the Mercantile Library Association, our thanks are eminently due, and warmly tendered; and that we regard it as a high privilege that it should have been marked out by one who has explored so extensively, and contributed so largely to the records of human learning.

*Resolved*, That the President be requested to make inquiry respecting its publication, with power to effect an arrangement for that object.

By order of the Board.

HORATIO N. OTIS, *Secretary*.



**CONTENTS**  
**OF A**  
**CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ,**  
**FOR THE**  
**USE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MERCANTILE LI-**  
**BRARY ASSOCIATION.**

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4. Roman Oratory, Philosophy, and Poetry.
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The Catalogue consists of *select* books in the English language, and with which it would be useful and ornamental for every gentleman, in every business and pursuit, to have some acquaintance.

The classification and variety of the selection, are intended to meet the various tastes and habits of thinking of the numerous members of the Mercantile Library Association.

## A SELECT COURSE OF READING.

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### I. ANCIENT LITERATURE.

THE Selection is confined to such works as have been translated into the English Language, and become incorporated with the domestic literature of the country.

#### (1.) GREEK HISTORY.

##### 1. Herodotus, translated by Beloe.

Every investigation made by travellers and geographers in modern times, has tended to confirm the good faith, truth and accuracy of Herodotus, who is styled the *Father of History*.

##### 2. Thucydides, translated by Smith.

His work was devoted to the memorable Peloponnesian war, between Athens and Sparta. He was one of the most eminent of the ancient historians, and a model of simplicity, conciseness and scrupulous fidelity.

##### 3. Xenophon. His History of the Affairs of Greece, was translated by Smith, who translated Thucydides.

His expedition of Cyrus was admirably translated by Spelman, and it is a fascinating narration to all admirers of Grecian enterprise and discipline.

His Institution of Cyrus, called the *Cyropædia*, translated by Ashley, has rather been considered a philosophical romance than an authentic history. It, however, details the conduct of a wise and virtuous king.

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All the works of Xenophon in English, were published at London, in one volume, 1832.

4. Polybius's "General History," was translated by Hampton. 2 vols., London.

It is a History of the Greek and Roman world, during the most splendid march of the Roman power, from the beginning of the Second Punic War to the end of the kingdom of Macedon. The history is interwoven with sound political reflections.

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The above are the leading original Greek historians; and the modern works which have in a special manner illustrated and adorned Grecian history, are

1. Rollin's Ancient History, in 8 vols.; written in French, and translated.

This has been a standard work in the schools for a century past, in relation to Egyptian, Assyrian, Carthaginian, and Grecian history; and it is a popular compilation of surpassing excellence.

2. Gillie's History of Greece, and his History of the World from Alexander to Augustus, in 3 vols., are works which show that the author was profoundly versed in Grecian learning and antiquities.

3. The Travels of Anacharsis, by the Abbé Barthelemy, in 9 vols., in French, and 7 vols. in the English translation.

This work has been highly extolled, and greatly admired, as a rich mine of Grecian erudition, and elegant literature. It is a very learned and ingenious view of the Greek institutions, arts and manners, in the form of a fictitious voyage, by a young Scythian, into Greece in the midst of her glory.

4. Mitford's History of Greece, in 10 vols.

This great work is distinguished for its accuracy, freedom and trustworthiness. He does not scruple to tell the truth,

and the whole truth, and to paint the stormy democracies of Greece, in all their grandeur, and in all their wretchedness.

5. Goldsmith's Histories of Greece, and of Rome, and of England, are delightful summaries; for Dr. Johnson's epitaph on Goldsmith says truly, that his pen touched no subject which he did not adorn.
6. The Abbé de Mably's Observations upon the History of Greece, are very interesting and instructive.
7. Heeren on the Ancient Nations of Africa, &c.
  - I. The Carthaginians, Egyptians, and Ethiopians, 2 vols.
  - II. The Asiatic Nations, 3 vols.
  - III. Sketch of the Political History of ancient Greece; and
  - IV. Manual of Ancient History.

These works are all translated from the German, and published at Oxford, 1831; and they are deeply instructive, and replete with striking and sagacious reflections.

The catalogue might be greatly extended, but the authors referred to, are of the highest reputation, and sufficient for the general reader.

## (2.) GREEK ORATORY, PHILOSOPHY AND POETRY.

1. The Orations of Demosthenes, translated by Leland, in 2 vols.

The Orations are distinguished for simplicity, ardor and force; and they are translated with great ability and accuracy.

Hume says the Orations present to us models which of all human compositions, approach the nearest to perfection.

This eulogy appears to be extravagant, when we consider how rarely his orations are read and studied even by scholars and statesmen, or when we recur to the speeches of Pitt, Fox, Burke, Hamilton or Ames, Webster or Clay, or Brougham.

2. Aristotle's Ethics and Politics, translated by Dr. Gillies, the dignified historian of Greece, in 2 vols.

The former were intended to explain and enforce the cardi-



nal virtues of prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude. It was the earliest effort in antiquity to establish a system of moral philosophy. His politics displayed his profound sagacity, and it is admitted that Cicero, Machiavel, Montesquieu, Bacon, and other statesmen, were largely indebted to Aristotle, for the most solid of their speculations.

3. Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, translated by Pope. The former is also translated by Cowper into English blank verse, with great accuracy and fidelity. It is the only translation which gives a true portrait of Homer. Pope's version is periphrastic and free to an amazing degree; but it will charm as long as the English language lasts, by reason of the matchless melody of its versification.
4. The Tragedies of *Æschylus*, translated by Potter. Nothing in all antiquity surpasses the bold and fiery genius, and pathos, of this father of Greek tragedy.
5. The Tragedies of *Sophocles*, translated by Franklin, and again by Dale, and the Tragedies of *Euripides*, translated by Potter, are eminently grave, pathetic and sublime productions.

### (3.) ROMAN HISTORY.

1. Sallust's *Histories of Catiline's Conspiracy*, and of the War with Jugurtha, translated by Rose and Stewart, are masterly productions, written with wonderful conciseness and energy, and with sketches of character and of picturesque incidents, that are inimitable.
2. *Dionysius of Halicarnassus* flourished in the Augustan age. His *Roman Antiquities* relate to the early history of Rome, down to the first Punic War. They are translated by the learned Spelman, in 4 vols., 8vo.
3. *Livy*, translated by Baker, in 2 vols. 8vo.

This history is upon the whole, the greatest and most comprehensive historical composition of the ancients. It is re-

plete with gravity, sincerity, and picturesque description. The third decade on the Invasion of Italy by Hannibal, is the grandest exhibition of power and talent, to be met with in story. The translation is simple and dry, but true and exact.

4. Julius Cæsar's Wars in Gaul, 'translated by Duncan. The history is written with great simplicity and candor.
5. Tacitus, translated by Murphy. All the remains of Tacitus are deserving of profound study. The translation wants the compression of the original, and is too periphrastic. The English language would not well admit of the brevity of Tacitus, without rendering the narration abrupt and obscure. The translation is distinguished for elegance, and strength, and dignity, and gives the sense of the original with fidelity.
6. Plutarch's Lives, translated by the two Langhorns, from the original Greek. Plutarch has for ages been the most popular of all the ancient historical writers.

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Among the many modern writers upon Roman history, it will be sufficient to mention :

1. Hooke's Roman History from the foundation of Rome to the ruin of the Commonwealth. This occupies the whole ground that Livy had chosen. He was a laborious and faithful compiler. The Jesuits Catrou and Rouillé far exceeded him, for they compiled a Roman history, in 21 vols., 4to., and which is the most extensive Roman history extant.
2. Rollin's History of Rome, in 16 vols., with Crevier's History of the Roman Emperors, is of high character for fidelity, but it is very prolix and tediously minute. I entered upon the reading of a translation of it when at college sixty years ago, with inconsiderate ardor, but was soon glad to escape to Goldsmith's brief and enchanting epitome of Roman history.

3. Niebuhr's History of Rome, translated from the German, by Hare and Thirlwell, 2 vols., 8vo. It calls in question the authority of much of the early Roman history; and the author is a searching and profound antiquary. The first centuries of the Roman republic are intermixed, no doubt, with much beautiful fiction created by national vanity, and at the same time with much solid truth. The work has too much of dry and intricate antiquarian research and criticism, to interest the general reader.
4. Vertot's Revolutions of Rome. The narration is beautiful and eloquent.
5. Ferguson's History of the Progress and Termination of the Roman Republic; authentic and dignified; and the latter volumes, on the struggles and termination of the Republic, are full of interesting reflection.
6. Goldsmith's History of Rome, from its Foundation to the Destruction of the Western Empire. 2 vols. A delightful summary.
7. Gibbon's History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, in 12 vols. Some of the notes disfigure the work, and are in bad taste; but the work itself is a great, splendid, and perhaps unrivalled monument of talent, industry and learning.
8. Middleton's Life of Cicero, may be considered as a most important branch of Roman history. It is an admirable work. The life of that great man spreads over the whole interesting period of the dying convulsions of the Republic.
9. Montesquieu on the Grandeur and Declension of the Romans. Greatly admired; and d'Alembert called it a Roman history, for the use of statesmen and philosophers.
10. Sismondi's History of the Fall of the Roman Empire. Philadelphia, 1835.

(4.) ROMAN ORATORY, PHILOSOPHY AND POETRY.

1. Cicero's Works, so far as they are translated.

See the Catalogue, Mer. Lib. : pp. 135, 166, 201, 202, 204, 260.

His writings are transcendent. I recommend his Offices; his Tusculan Disputations; his Treatise on the Nature of the Gods; his Treatises on Old Age and Friendship; his Epistles, and his numerous and elaborate Orations. We need not look into Roman history beyond Cicero, for specimens of the perfection of Roman oratory, philosophy and wisdom. The eventful life of Cicero; his splendid public services; his exalted patriotism; his surprising industry; his immense erudition; his profound sagacity; his incorruptible integrity; his almost Christian philosophy, are thoroughly apparent in his works, and elegantly delineated in Middleton's life of him.

2. The Epistles of the younger Pliny, translated by Melmoth, in 2 vols. They are exceedingly amusing and instructive portraits of Roman society and contemporary characters. He details the first irruption of Vesuvius, where his uncle perished.

3. Lucan's Pharsalia, translated by Rowe, in English verse, in 2 vols., 12mo. It is an historical poem of the epic character, and displays the successful ambition of Julius Cæsar, and the inflexible perseverance of Cato.

4. The Comedies of Terence, translated by Colman : excellent.

5. The Georgics of Virgil, translated by Sotheby, and the Æneid of Virgil, by Dryden.

These translations are much admired for elegance and harmony. That of Dryden is much disfigured, to my taste, by his triplets. The poems themselves are enchanting. Sir Walter Scott says, that Dryden has completely surpassed all that have preceded or succeeded him, in communicating Virgil's ideas, with force and energy equal to his own. His version of the sixth Æneid is beautiful and unequalled.

6. Horace's Odes, Satires, and Epistles, translated by Dr. Francis, in faithful and beautiful verse. Rather than not to be acquainted with the subjects, and some of the beauties of Virgil and Horace, I would read them in the prose translations of Davidson and Smart. They are true and elegant prose translations, and no person can understand the Roman manners and Roman mind under Augustus accurately, without being well versed in Horace.
7. Juvenal's Satires, translated by Gifford. The translation in English verse is masterly, and unites fidelity with spirit. It is the best poetical version of a classic in the English language. Many of Juvenal's descriptions are gross and offensive, but they do not corrupt. Their tendency is to excite disgust and horror, and the vices of the age are chastised by Juvenal, with a tragic tone and awe-inspiring indignation.  
N. B. Harpers' Classical Library, in fifty volumes, contains the best translations of the ancient classics.  
In connection with the Roman writers ought to be read or examined:
8. Dunlop's excellent History of Roman Literature, 2 vols.
9. Crusius's Lives of the Roman Poets, in 2 vols.
10. Kennett's and Adams' Roman Antiquities.

#### (5.) JEWISH ANTIQUITIES.

1. The historical parts of the Old Testament.
2. Josephus' Jewish Antiquities, translated by Whiston.
3. Milman's History of the Jews, 3 vols., 18mo., N. Y.

4. Lewis's Antiquities of the Jewish Republic, 3 vols. Published in London, as early as 1724, in 4 vols.
5. Prideaux's Connection between the Old and New Testament, 2 vols.
6. Turner's Sacred History, 3 vols., 18mo., Harpers' Family Library.

## II. MODERN LITERATURE.

### (1.) GENERAL EUROPEAN HISTORY.

1. Russell's History of Modern Europe, 3 vols. 8vo., N. Y., 1836.

Mavor's Universal History, ancient and modern, 25 vols., 12mo., N. Y., 1804.

Tytler's and Nares' Universal History, 6 vols., 1839. Harpers' Family Library.

These three different compilations will give a general view of history, and may serve for such persons as have not leisure to consult and read higher authorities, or enter into more accurate details.

2. Voltaire's Essay upon the Manners and Spirit of Nations, and the principal facts of history, from Charlemagne to Louis 13th, in 6 vols. This is an elaborate work; and in the earlier editions of Voltaire's works, it was entitled an *Essay on General History*. Gibbon says that Voltaire "cast a keen and rapid glance over the surface of history." Nothing could be more just and graphic than this character of Voltaire's history. It is nevertheless written with great vivacity, beauty, sagacity and taste. His *Age of Louis 14th*, in 3 vols., is the most celebrated, and the most admired of all his historical productions.
3. James's History of Charlemagne, is an admirable work.

4. Vertot's History of the Knights of Malta, 5 vols., French edit., 1727. It is a very spirited, elegant and interesting work; but Gibbon cast a shade over its accuracy, in saying that the Abbé had a turn for romance, and wrote to please the order.
5. Robertson's History of the Reign of the Emperor Charles 5th.
6. Watson's History of the Reigns of Philip 2d and Philip 3d, 3 vols.
7. Prescott's History of Ferdinand and Isabella, 3 vols.
8. Irving's Life and Voyages of Columbus, 3 vols.  
These four last works are sterling productions of the highest order.
9. Archdeacon Cox's History of the House of Austria, 5 vols., London.
10. Dodsley's Annual Register. The historical part of each volume from its commencement, in 1758, to the present time, say 80 volumes. I cannot recommend a better summary of modern European history.
11. Alison's History of Europe, from the commencement of the French Revolution, in 7 vols. It is one of the most authentic and most eloquent historical productions of the age.
12. Sir Walter Scott's Life of Napoleon, 9 vols.  
This is another history of that awful event the French Revolution, written by a master hand. I have entire confidence in its fidelity, and undissembled admiration of the wisdom of his reflections, the neatness and purity of his

style, and the eloquence of his descriptive powers. It may be that when writers of brilliant genius undertake to write sober history, there is some danger that they may unconsciously impart to their narrations, some of the creations of a rich and fervid imagination. Such historians were Herodotus, Livy, Vertot, Voltaire, Burke, Sismondi, Scott and Irving.

13. Napier's History of the Peninsular War, 5 vols., very interesting, and written with a soldier's graphic precision.
14. Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History, translated from the German, by Maclaine, and recently by Murdock: an excellent work. He has been called the Father of Ecclesiastical History.
15. Burnet's History of the Reformation, by Dr. Nares, 4 vols. 8vo. He wrote with coarseness, vigor and integrity.
16. Father Paul's History of the Council of Trent, translated by Brent, London, 1620, with a fulsome dedication to King James. The Council of Trent was called by the Pope in 1536; but it did not formally assemble until 1545. It was a great event in ecclesiastical history, and was called for the avowed purpose of "cleansing the church from heresy, restoring discipline, correcting manners, and making war against infidels." Father Paul's history is very celebrated; and Dr. Robertson places it among the most admired historical compositions, for perspicuity, erudition, and force of reason. The historian himself was one of the most amiable, elevated and patriotic characters that was ever formed in monastic retirement.
17. Bougeant's History of the Wars and Negotiations which preceded the Treaty of Westphalia. The first volume is devoted to the famous Thirty Years War in Germany; and it is animated and deeply attractive.



(2.) GENERAL LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY OF EUROPE.

1. Hallam's View of Europe, during the Middle Ages. 2 vols. A work of profound research, and displaying a free and vigorous spirit of inquiry and criticism.
2. Hallam's Introduction to the Literature of Europe, during the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries, in 4 vols. This is a production of the greatest value, and distinguished like his other work, for research, judgment, taste and elegance.
3. Madame de Staël's Germany, in 2 vols.  
This work has been extolled to the skies. It is a sweeping view of society, manners, institutions, and literature, in every part of the immense and complicated Empire of Germany; and it well displays her exalted genius, her intense feelings, her extensive knowledge and profound reflections.
4. Guizot's History of Civilization in Europe.  
This is a very interesting work, and contains the evidences of deep meditation, noble principles, and enlarged philosophy. The author is a conservative, a statesman, and a christian.
5. Burke's Reflections, and other writings, on the French Revolution, and on European policy. His works were published at Boston, 1839, in 8 vols., and in New-York, in 3 vols.  
All of Burke's works ought to be read and studied. They prove his wonderful genius, his taste, his sagacity, his goodness, his wisdom, his judgment, his varied virtues, and his eloquence.
6. Sismondi's Historical View of the Literature of the South of Europe, in 4 vols., translated by Roscoe.  
This celebrated, voluminous, and eloquent writer, maintains a distinguished reputation.

7. **Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws**, is a work of general interest and application on government and public policy, with the exception of his discussion of the feudal laws, which may belong to jurisprudence. No work excited more attention or a greater spirit of inquiry in the middle of the last century. And though it abounds in fanciful theories and obsolete matter, it is still worthy of the study of statesmen and scholars, as well as of the legal antiquarian. The work is translated in 2 vols., 8vo.
8. **Pascal's Provincial Letters**, are distinguished for wit, taste, bitter irony, and acute criticism. Gibbon said that he perused Pascal's Provincial Letters every year with new pleasure. D'Aguesseau goes further, and doubts whether the Philippics of Demosthenes, or Cicero, offer any thing more forcible or more perfect. They were translated into English in 1816.

### (3.) BRITISH HISTORY.

1. **Hume's History of England**, with Smollett's Continuation.  
The accuracy of Hume, in respect to the two first princes of the house of Stuart, has been severely attacked by G. Stuart, Whitaker, Brodie, and others; but his charming style, his profound sagacity, and his philosophical reflections, clothe his great work with irresistible attractions.
2. **Turner's History of England**, down to the Lives of the Tudors, is replete with Anglo-Saxon and other ancient learning; and it is written with dignity, purity and eloquence. Turner surpasses Hume in the depth and fulness of his researches, and in the spirit and tenor of his moral reflections.
3. **Henry's History of Great Britain**, in 6 vols., carries the narration down to the death of Henry 8th. It is written on a new plan, and separates the civil and military history of each volume from the ecclesiastical history, and

from that of the laws, the learning, the arts, the commerce, and manners of the same period. The history is compiled with great erudition and fidelity, and the plan has been highly extolled, but his style is not attractive, nor has the capricious taste of the public rescued the work from neglect. Dr. Henry has still higher claims on public gratitude, for he translated correctly President Goguet's most learned work on the Origin of Laws, Arts, and Sciences, and their Progress among the most Ancient Nations.

4. Rapin de Thoyras's History of England, in 10 4to. volumes, is still more unfortunate. It has gone into absolute oblivion. His work was written in French, and translated by Tindall. This laborious, candid and impartial history, is heavy and prolix. But the writer of this note has reason to respect it. In the year 1782, when books in the country were exceedingly scarce, (for it was in the midst of the American war,) he deemed himself fortunate in meeting with a huge folio edition of Rapin, and he forced his way through it with much resolution; and large notes which he then took of the early part of that history, are now lying before him.
5. Sir James Mackintosh's History of England, from the Roman Conquest, to the Reign of Elizabeth. It is an excellent summary of the most memorable events in English history, and contains a sound and philosophical view of the nature and progress of her social and political institutions, written in a chaste and elegant style.
6. Dr. Lingard's History of England, from the Invasion by the Romans, to the Revolution in 1688, in 13 vols., 12mo., is the work of a diligent and learned writer, whose style is concise and perspicuous, and who discusses subjects with acuteness, and force and candor. He is charged, however, by protestant writers, with being disturbed in the exercise of his accustomed impartiality when on religious subjects.
7. Goldsmith's History of England, in 2 vols., is a beautiful sketch.

The histories of detached portions of English history are numerous. I can only mention—

1. Lord Lyttleton's History of the Reign of Henry 2d, in 4 vols. It is heavy, prolix, but trustworthy, and contains searching investigations into the laws, policy, characters, and events of that reign.
2. Lord Bacon's History of Henry 7th. It is short, and nothing striking, except that it bears the name of Bacon.
3. Robertson's History of Scotland, during the reign of Mary, and
4. Gilbert Stuart's History of Scotland, during the same period.  
These are antagonist histories, and each of them is written with very great elegance and dignity.
5. Miss Aikin's Memoirs of the Court of Elizabeth, and of that of James, and of that of Charles 1st, are delightfully entertaining, and equally distinguished for sagacity, taste, accuracy, candor, and elegant and graphic delineation of character.
6. Clarendon's History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars under Charles 1st, in 6 vols., 8vo., London. This history has had great renown, but has been severely criticized and depreciated in the present age. The style is bad, with long and most tiresome periods; but the candid reader will be forcibly struck with the moderation of the author, and his strong and impressive sketches of character. The state papers interspersed in the volumes, are drawn with an ability and perspicuity, that would do honor to any age; and the leading actors in those turbulent and revolutionary scenes were men of the greatest genius and most exalted endowments.

7. Godwin's History of the Commonwealth of England, in 4 vols., is a political counterpart of that of Lord Clarendon; for the writer was of the radical school of politics, and of the atheistical school of philosophy.
8. The Life of Cromwell, by John Forster, London, 1839, and as abridged in the Westminster Review, for October, 1839, is masterly.
9. Mackintosh's History of the Revolution in England, of 1688.
10. Bissett's History of the Reign of George 3d, published as a continuation to Hume and Smollett.
11. Croly's History of the Life and Times of George 4th; Harpers' Family Library.  
This is well written, but the subject of the historian was a profligate man.
12. Southey's Early Naval History of England. Philad., 1836. Learned, entertaining and authentic.
13. Leland's History of Ireland, 4 vols., N. Y., 1774. Dr. Leland commences his history with the invasion of Ireland, by Henry 2d; and he carries it down to the Revolution in 1688. It is written with judgment, care and just discrimination. The historian was Prebendary of St. Patrick's, Dublin.
14. Th. Moore's History of Ireland, 2 vols., 12mo., London and Philad., 1835.
15. P. F. Tytler's History of Scotland, 6 vols.  
These two last works are well recommended.

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(4.) HISTORY OF THE OTHER STATES AND KINGDOMS OF EUROPE.

OF FRANCE.

1. Gifford's History of France, 4 vols., Philad., 1799. A compilation not of much repute.
2. Herault's Chronological Abridgment of the History of France, 3 vols. The author was a member of the French Academy, and of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres. He was a man of deep and elegant literature, and died in 1770, at an advanced age. This history has been very much extolled by competent French judges. The author announces it as containing the substance and spirit of French history, and it certainly has the interest and charm which belong to the reality of such a pretension.
3. Thuanus or De Thou's History of his Own Times, 3 vols., fol. It is translated by Wilson. It was written originally in Latin, and an edition in 7 vols., fol., in Latin, was printed in England in 1733, by subscription, and dedicated to Dr. Mead. His liberal principles elevated his character; and Lord Mansfield said that he never read the dedication of the work to Henry 4th, without rapture. The History was honored with a decree of the Spanish inquisition against it.
4. Davila's History of the Civil Wars in France, in 6 vols., was written originally in Italian at Venice, and treats of the civil wars of France from 1559 to 1598. The French, who are the best judges in the case, praise the work for the historian's happy power of narration, the striking verity and vivacity of his descriptions, and his sagacious investigation of the springs of action in princes and statesmen.
5. Sully's Memoirs, in 5 vols. They are very interesting, and place the character of Sully in an amiable light, as an honest and able statesman. Hume says, that

Henry 4th, who figures so largely in these memoirs, was the most heroic and most amiable prince that adorns modern story.

6. Sismondi's History of France. The 19th volume of his voluminous history appeared in 1834, and brings the course of events down to the massacre of St. Bartholomew. He narrates freely, and with his usual spirit and eloquence.
7. History of Lewis 11th, by Duclos, in 4 vols., 8vo. It relates to an interesting age, and to a faithless and rapacious, but sagacious and vigorous despot, who worked a revolution in the government of France. His character must be familiar to the English reader, for who has not read his portrait in *Quentin Durward*, as drawn by the masterly pencil of Scott?
8. De Retz' Memoirs, in 4 vols., are light, graceful, amusing, full of incident, and in keeping with the French character of that day.

#### OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

9. The Abbé Vertot's *Revolutions of Spain, and Portugal, and Sweden*, are all of them very interesting, and have the charms of romance with the gravity and fidelity of history. They are written with great elegance. The work on Portugal gives the history of the deliverance of Portugal from the yoke of Spain, and the restoration of the house of Braganza, and it does great credit to the energy and patriotism of the Portuguese character. That on Sweden gives the life of Gustavus Vasa, the deliverer of his country, and who in the mountains of Delacarla roused his countrymen to arms. The Abbé de Mably considered that this history of Sweden would bear a comparison with the finest morsels of antiquity.

10. Southey's *History of the Peninsular War*, in 3 vols., 1823: and Napier's *History of the same*, in 5 vols. are recent histories, of eminent reputation. The latter is by far the most interesting, being written by a professed judge in the art of war.
11. The great *Histories of Ferdinand and Isabella*; of *Charles 5th*; and *Philip 2d and 3d*, and of the *Voyages of Columbus*, and which occupy the most splendid period of Spanish history, have been already mentioned, as forming part of general European History.

## OF ITALY.

12. Machiavel's *History of the Republic of Florence*, was written at the request of Pope Clement 7th, and is carried down to the death of Lorenzo de Medici. He was the Florentine secretary of state, and eminent for his political sagacity and profound depth of observation. The first book is deemed a model of historical abridgment of the history of the former sovereignties of Italy. He has been hailed as the morning star of modern history; and in reference to his strong and stern remark, and lively and picturesque description, he has been styled the Tuscan Tacitus. His history is very instructive and monitory, inasmuch as it describes the ferocity of faction, and civil dissension incident to the popular and stormy democracies of ancient Greece and modern Italy, and the proscriptions and tyranny in which they all eventually terminated.
13. Guicciardini begins his *History of the Civil Wars in Italy*, where Machiavel ended his *History of Florence*; and it consequently embraced the last struggles of the republic of Florence. He was a severe and impartial historian, and took a deep share in the civil and military affairs of Italy; but his history is painfully prolix and attenuated. It is entitled "*The History of Italy from 1490 to 1532*," and was translated into English by Goddard, in the middle of the last century, and published under the patron-



age of an honorable list of subscribers, in 10 vols., 8vo. Professor Rosini published at Pisa, in 1920, a new and improved edition of Guicciardini, and which Botta has continued from 1634 to 1789. The history of Guicciardini, has been uniformly admired for its exactness and veracity, and Sir William Jones went so far as to say, that he believed it was the most authentic history that was ever composed. But he gives a most deplorable picture of Italian society and morals in the 15th and 16th centuries. His pictures of the worst vices of Italy, resemble those sketches in the great Greek historian; and he has frequently been called the Florentine Thucydides.

14. Roscoe's *Lives of Lorenzo de Medici, and of Leo 10th*, were reprinted in Philadelphia in 1803 and 1806: and have been greatly celebrated, for they give a learned and elegant history of civil affairs and of letters in Italy, during the time that Lorenzo governed the Florentine republic and throughout "Leo's golden days." The first of these works, which appeared in 1795, as the production "of a practising attorney, to use the words of a critic of that day, in the remote commercial town of Liverpool, where nothing was heard of but Guinea ships, blacks, and merchandise," struck the men of letters in London with surprise and admiration, as a phenomenon in literature. The history received in consequence, extravagant praise, and was placed in the first rank of English classical history. But the progress of time, and higher attainments in criticism, have contributed to abate much of this original enthusiasm. The life of Leo 10th is dull and tedious, and both histories have now attained a stationary but moderate elevation.
15. Gianonne's *Civil History of the Kingdom of Naples*, in 11 vols., is much esteemed. Lord Mansfield recommended it to the student. It is distinguished for purity of style, and for freedom and boldness of discussion, and the severity with which he treated the church, exposed him to terrible persecution, exile and imprisonment.

16. Sismondi's History of the Italian Republics of the Middle Ages, in 8 vols., in French. He afterwards abridged it under the title of a View of the Origin, Progress and Fall of Italian Freedom.
17. Sketches of Venetian History, in 2 vols. Harpers' Family Library, 1839.

It is unnecessary for the purpose of this Catalogue to go further into the series of local Italian historians. They are numerous, and I have selected a few of the most prominent. There are new works constantly rising into view. Botta's *Storia d'Italia*, from 1789 to 1814, in 4 vols., 4to., is said to have been so gratifying to his countrymen, that eight Italian editions were published within a year from its appearance at Paris, in 1824. The elder President Adams, in his defence of the American Constitutions, has given, in the 2d and 3d volumes of that work, an abridgment of the histories of the Italian republics of the middle ages, between the fall of the western and the eastern empires. He refers to the histories of the republics of Florence, Sienna, Bologna, Pistoria, Cremona and Padua; and his object was to demonstrate, (as he did effectually) the imperfections of their political systems, and that they were all alike ill-constituted; all alike miserable; and all ended in similar disgrace and despotism.

## OF THE NORTH OF EUROPE.

18. Tooke's History of Russia, 2 vols., London, 1800. This work proceeds from the foundation of the monarchy to the accession of Catharine 2d.
- He has also published the History of the Reign of Catharine 2d, in 3 vols., London, 1799. He is a respectable historian.
19. Voltaire's History of Russia, under Peter the Great; and Castéra's History of Catharine 2d, London, 1800. The former is lively. The latter a grave and impressive story.

20. Cox's History of the House of Austria, from 1219 to 1792, in 5 vols., 8vo. A faithful, laborious, accurate, but not attractive work.
21. Lord Dover's Life of Frederick the Great ; Harpers' edition.
22. Coxe's Russian Discoveries, contains the history of the conquest of Siberia by Russia, in the 16th century, and which brought that empire in collision with China. Edition, London, 1787.

(5.) HISTORY OF THE ASIATIC AND AFRICAN POWERS.

1. Crichton's History of Arabia, 2 vols., Harpers' Family Library.  
Mavor's History of the Arabs, 12mo., London, 1802.
2. Fraser's History of Persia, London, 1802.
3. Russell's History of Palestine, London, 1802.  
Mavor's History of the Ottoman Empire in Asia, London, 1802, 12mo.
4. Robertson's Disquisition concerning Ancient India. Excellent.
5. Dow's History of Hindostan, 3 vols., Dublin, 1792.  
Mavor's History of Hindostan, 12mo., London, 1802.
6. Historical Account of British India, 3 vols., Harpers' Family Library.
7. Raffles' History of Java, in 2 vols., 4to., London, 1817. This is a great work of the utmost accuracy and authenticity; and gives a better account of the geography,

resources, population, character, commerce, arts and history of the half civilized inhabitants of a great and flourishing native empire, than any other work extant.

8. Marsden's History of the immense Island of Sumatra, with its fierce and barbarous native powers, is another historical work of high character and deep interest.
9. Du Halde's History of China. This work of a learned and pious Jesuit, was published in 4 vols., in 1731. It is ample in description, and is written with great simplicity and judgment.
10. The Travels of Bell of Antermomy, who went with the Russian embassy under Ismayloff from Petersburg to Pekin, in 1720, to the court of Kamhi, the Emperor of China, is about as curious, honest, intelligent, and interesting a narration, as any extant.
11. China, and its State and Prospects, by Medhurst, of the London Missionary Society, and published in Boston, in 1838, is a very authentic and valuable work.
12. Gutzlaff's Sketch of Chinese History and Trade, in 2 vols., is also an authentic and interesting picture of China, and reflects credit on the zeal, diligence, knowledge, and great merits of the author. I may here add that there is an article in the *American Quarterly Review*, No. 33, on Chinese history, (and of which this work is the text,) which may be considered as a learned and masterly production.
13. The Stranger in China, by Downing, 2 vols., Philad., 1838, gives a novel and instructive account of the domestic life and manners of the Chinese.  
Davis's History of China, in 2 vols., (Harpers' Family Library,) is also trustworthy and comprehensive.
14. Ellis's History of Madagascar, 2 vols., London, is a full and very valuable account of that great island

abounding in impervious forests, and inhabited by millions of half civilized black and olive races of men, susceptible of higher improvement.

15. Greenhow's History of Tripoli, Richmond, 1835 ;  
Shaler's Sketches of Algiers, Boston, 1826 ; and  
Jackson's Account of the Empire of Morocco, Phil., 1810,  
Are all of them authentic, creditable and instructive publications.

### III. AMERICAN HISTORY.

This country abounds with annals and local histories, which no ordinary scholar or man of business, who aims only at a general knowledge of the history of his own country, will be disposed to examine at large. A discreet selection becomes indispensable.

#### (1.) UNITED STATES.

1. Burke's European Settlements in America, 2 vols., 1760. Much esteemed.  
Chalmers' Political Annals of the United Colonies, from their first settlement in 1763, London, 1780.
2. Bancroft's History of the United States, 2 vols., Boston, 1834—7. There is much to admire in the research and style of this work
3. Grahame's History of the United States, in 4 vols. This last is an European production, and it is written with great gravity and dignity, moderation and justice.
4. Pitkin's History of the United States, from 1763 to 1797. This is an accurate and trustworthy production, and Mr. Pitkin has filled high public trusts and sustained a pure and excellent character.

5. **Marshall's Life of Washington, Vol. 1st on Colonial History.**
6. **Belknap's History of New-Hampshire, 3 vols.**  
The first volume appeared in Philadelphia, in 1784. This work was reprinted in England, and mentioned in the periodical literature of the day, in very respectful terms. Being one of our earliest domestic histories, it was received in this country with peculiar respect.
7. **Hutchinson's History of Massachusetts, 2 vols.**  
This was a colonial publication, and one very respectable. See also Minot's Continuation.
8. **Winthrop's Journal, edited by Savage, 2 vols.**  
This work relates to the first settlement of Massachusetts, and the other New-England colonies. The notes of the learned editor adds greatly to its interest and value. The same remark will apply to
9. **Morton's New-England Memorial, edited by Judge Davis.** This history is a curiosity in several respects. It was the earliest history of New-England, and confined principally to the Plymouth colony. It was compiled upon the recommendation of the commissioners of the four united colonies of New-England, in 1656; and the object was "to collect the special and remarkable passages of God's providence towards them."
10. **Bayley's Historical Memoir of the Colony of New-Plymouth, 2 vols., 1830.** A very respectable work.
11. **Trumbull's History of Connecticut, 2 vols.**  
This history commences with the first settlement of the colony, and it is brought down to 1764. It is a work of substantial merit and uncommon interest. As the first settlers were intelligent, learned, pious and discreet pilgrims, they established a republic of the most simple and perfect kind, and furnished it with a code of popular instruction

and of civil and religious discipline, and of social institutions, and of order and decorum unparalleled in the history of mankind. The colonial republic of Connecticut, as represented in this work, is a phenomenon in the history of civil society.

11. Williams' History of Vermont, Walpole, 1794.
12. Smith's History of New-York, 2 vols. The first volume was compiled in 1736, and the second volume which brings the history down to 1762, was a posthumous publication. The author died at Quebec in 1793, and was then chief justice of Canada. The work is sensibly written, and with perfect authenticity; but it is as dry as ordinary annals.  
See also Dunlap's History of New-York, 2 vols., 8vo., 1840, and Col. Stone's History of Brant, the celebrated Mohawk Chief. Interesting.
13. Gordon's History of New-Jersey, Trenton, 1834.
14. Proud's History of Pennsylvania, from 1681 to 1742. 2 vols., Ph'lad., 1797. This work is of great research, and abounds with valuable matter; but "it is the most confused and tedious composition, that ever tormented human patience."
15. Stith's History of Virginia, 1747.
16. Lanman's History of Michigan, 1839. Excellent.
17. Flint's History and Geography of the Mississippi Valley, 2 vols, 1832.
18. View of the Valley of the Mississippi, Phil., Tanner, 1832. Excellent.

19. **Botta's History of the War of Independence**, 2 vols., Boston, 1826. Mr. Jay was reading this history when I visited him in 1820; and he told me that its general accuracy was undoubted.
20. **Williamson's History of North Carolina**.
21. **Ramsay's History of the Revolution in South Carolina**, 2 vols., Trenton, 1789. General Greene, (and there could not be a better witness,) vouched for the accuracy of this history.
22. **Lee's Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department of the United States**, 2 vols., 1812. They are very interesting, and as fascinating as a romance, though they undoubtedly contain true history.
23. **Cooper's History of the Navy of the United States**, 2 vols., 1839. A plain, frank, unpretending narration.

(2.) OTHER PARTS OF AMERICA.

1. **Haliburton's Account of Nova Scotia**, 2 vols., 1829.
2. **Bouchette's Description of Canada**, London, 1815.
3. **Hawkins' Historical Recollections of Canada and Quebec**. 1834. Excellent.
4. **Humboldt on New Spain**, 2 vols., translated by Black.
5. **Robertson's History of America**, 2 vols. This history is the most attractive of all Dr. Robertson's productions. Criticism has detected imperfections and errors, but it has not shaken the solidity of the fabric.



6. Irving's History of the Life and Voyages of Columbus, 3 vols., New-York, 1828. This work is founded partly on access to new and original documents in Spain; and it is written with the attractions of style and taste, and glowing description, which belong to the inspiration of the theme, and to the genius of the distinguished author.
7. Southey's History of Brazil, 3 vols.; 4to., London.
8. History of the Buccaneers. This is a work for heroic enterprise and remorseless daring, unparalleled in the tales of romance.
9. Edwards' History of the British Colonies in the West Indies, 3 vols. A learned and elegant work.
10. Franklin's Present State of Hayti, London, 1828.
11. Brown's History and Present Condition of St. Domingo, 2 vols., Phil., 1837.
12. History of Chili, by Molina, translated by Alsop, 2 vols., 1803. It is a work of respectable character.
13. Forbes' History of California. 1838. A work of superior excellence and most useful instruction. North California is the most attractive country on the west side of the American continent, between the arctic and antarctic regions.

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#### IV. TRAVELS.

The relations of travels and voyages have become in a considerable degree, devoted to the history, as well as to the geography, government, resources, morals and manners of na-

tions. They are among the most instructive as well as entertaining branches of modern reading. The most accessible, if not the best book on universal geography, is *Malte Brun's Geography*, in 6 vols., 8vo., Philad., 1827, accompanied with Tanner's, or some other universal atlas, in a quarto form.

(1.) TRAVELS IN THE UNITED STATES.

1. Carver's Travels, 1766—1768 ; 3d edit., London, 1788. These travels excited much attention soon after the American war. He commenced his travels, as he stated, from Michilimackinac, which was then regarded as far beyond the verge of the civilized world : and he traversed the (now) Wisconsin Territory to the Mississippi.
2. Henry's Travels and Adventures in Canada and the Indian Territories, between 1760 and 1776. He was among the prisoners taken at the capture of Michilimackinac by the Indians, in June, 1763 ; and after his release he went to the N. W. regions as far as Cumberland House, and there found a British garrison of Highlanders from the Orkney Islands ! His enterprise, perils and intrepidity, excite deep interest.
3. Lewis and Clark's Expedition up the Missouri and across the Rocky Mountains, to the Columbia River in 1804 and 1805, in 2 vols., was under the direction of the government of the United States, and ably executed.
4. Pike's Expeditions to the Sources of the Mississippi, and of the Arkansaw, in 1805, 6, 7, was another government equipment, and performed with energy.
5. Irving's Astoria, 2 vols., 1836, and his Rocky Mountains, or Scenes and Adventures in the Far West, in 2 vols., 1837.

These volumes are full of exciting incident, and by reason of Mr. Irving's fine taste and attractive style, they possess the power and the charms of romance.

6. **Major Long's Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains**, in 1819 and 1820, in 2 vols., and his **Second Expedition to the source of St. Peter's River, &c.**, in 1823, in 2 vols., under the orders of the government of the United States, reflected credit on the power that planned, and on the agents who carried it into execution.
7. **Schoolcraft's Travels from Detroit to the Sources of the Mississippi**, in 1820; and his travels to the **Central Portions of the Mississippi Valley**, in 1821; and his **Travels through the Upper Mississippi to the Itasca Lake**, in 1832, were all government expeditions, and the details are very interesting.
8. **Parker's Exploring Tour beyond the Rocky Mountains**, in 1838. This is one of the most authentic and interesting accounts we have of the country of Oregon or waters of the Columbia, and of the character of the Indian tribes in that savage country. The author brings to the subject all the knowledge, industry, candor and piety, becoming his mission and pretensions.

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Among the more domestic travels within the United States, may be mentioned—

9. **Dwight's Travels in New-England**, between 1796 and 1812, in 4 vols.  
Silliman's **Journey from Hartford to Quebec**, in 1819.  
Hoffman's **Winter in the West**, in 1833, 4, in 2 vols.  
Irving's **Tour on the Prairies**, in 1832.  
Murray's **Travels in N. America**, in 1834, 5, 6, in 2 vols.  
Schultz's **Travels on an Inland Voyage from Albany to New-Orleans**, in 1807 and 1808.

This last work affords an incontestable proof of the rapid and astonishing improvement in internal communication and commerce within the last thirty years, by means of canals, steamboats and rail-roads; and of the great difficulty and peril of transportation, at that era, up the Mohawk, and down the Wood Creek and Oneida Lake to Oswego, an

from thence to Niagara and Buffalo, and from Presque Isle to Pittsburgh; and then in barges and Kentucky boats down the Ohio and dangerous Mississippi to New-Orleans.

(2.) TRAVELS IN OTHER PARTS OF AMERICA.

1. Charlevoix's Travels in Canada from Quebec to New-Orleans, in 1720, in 2 vols., English. This is the most valuable of all his works. He was a Jesuit, and a learned and pious man, of great simplicity and integrity. See also Hearne's Journey from Hudson's Bay to the mouth of Copper Mine River, in 1771. He was the first white man that discovered the northern ocean west of Baffin's Bay, and east of Behring's Straits.
2. McKenzie's Voyages from Montreal to the Frozen and Pacific Oceans, in 1789 and 1793, 2 vols., 1802.
3. Captain Franklin's First Journey to the Polar Sea, 1819—1822.  
Captain Franklin's Second Journey to the Polar Sea, 1825—1827.
4. Captain Back's Journey to the same, in 1833—1835.  
These very authentic travels, like the voyages of Parry and Ross, have excited the curiosity and sympathies of the civilized world. They are indeed wonderful exhibitions of courage, skill, resolution and manly virtue; and yet the frozen regions and seas into which they penetrated, are fit only for the receptacle of bears and seals, and bear frightful marks of the sterility and desolation of eternal winter.
5. Visit to Texas in 1831. Printed N. Y., 1834.
6. Parker's Trip to Texas, in 1834—5. Printed Concord, 1836.
7. Poinsett's Travels to, and Notes on, Mexico, 1822.

8. Latrobe's Rambler in Mexico, in 1834.
9. Humboldt on New Spain, in 2 vols., translated by Black, in 1811.
10. Humboldt's Travels to the Equatorial Regions, 7 vols., abridged in N. Y. Family Library.
11. Thompson's Official Visit to Guatemala, in 1825.
12. Dunn's Residence in Central America, 1827.
13. Terry's Travels to the Equatorial Regions, in 1832. Hartford, 1834.
14. Notes on a Journey from Caraccas to Bogota, by an officer of the U. S., in 1822.
15. Depont's Voyage to Terra Firma, in 1801-4, in 3 vols., N. Y., 1806. This work was deemed very valuable at the time of its publication, but in this very revolutionary age and temper of mankind, all travels and geography become comparatively obsolete in thirty years. Such is the impatient and restless spirit of the times, that nothing seems to be very palatable that is not very new.
16. Ulloa's Voyages to South America, 1735-1746, 2 vols. Admirable. They contain a picture of Peru *as it was*, before the violence of earthquakes, and the tenfold more violent passions of man had consigned it to desolation.
17. Walsh's Notices of Brazil, in 1829, 2 vols.
18. Caldclough's Travels in South America, in 1819-1821, 2 vols.

A host of books of travels across the Pampas and the Andes from Buenos Ayres to Chili and Peru, such as Sir Francis Head, Cruz, Maw and Smyth. The two last men-

tioned travellers across the Peruvian Andes and down the Amazon, and published in London, 1829 and 1836, unfold new and curious information as to the settlements on the upper waters of the Amazon. They disclose the hidden recesses of that "Father of Floods."

### (3.) TRAVELS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

1. *The British Tourist*, by Mavor, 5 vols., London, 1798.

This is a valuable collection. It includes some of the best travels in Great Britain, such as those of Johnson, Boswell, Pennant, Young, Hutchinson, Newte, &c. See also Lettice's Tour through Scotland in 1792, and Sir Walter Scott's Visit to the Shetland Islands, in 1812, embodied in Lockhart's *Life of Scott*.

Among the best of the late American travellers in Great Britain, may be selected *Silliman's Journal* in 1805-6. *Simond's Travels* in 1810-1811. *Wheaton's Journal* of a Residence in England in 1823-1824. *Carter's Letters* from Europe, 1825. *Colton's Four Years' Residence* in Great Britain, in 1831-5. *Stewart's Sketches* of Society, in 1832. *Dewey's Old World and the New*, 2 vols., 1833. *Allen's Practical Tourist*, in 1832, 2 vols. *Humphrey's Great Britain, France and Belgium*, 1835, 2 vols. *Slidell's Young American* in England, 1835. These works contain sketches of society and manners, and are all written with purity and taste. I should select Allen's Tour, as containing the richest fund of practical and useful information.

### (4.) TRAVELS IN FRANCE.

1. *Young's Travels* in France, 1787-9, 2 vols.
2. *Carter's Letters* from Europe, 1825.
3. *Moore's Views* of Society in France in 1773-4.
4. *Moore's Journal* of a Residence in France in 1792. 2 vols.

### 5. Humphrey's Great Britain, France, &c.

#### (5.) TRAVELS IN SPAIN.

1. Swinburne's Travels in Spain, in 1775 and 1776.
2. Young's Travels in Catalonia.
3. Bourgoanne's Travels in Spain, in 2 vols.  
He resided in Spain, 18 years.
4. Townsend's Journey in Spain, in 1786 and 1787, in 3 vols.

All these travels over Spain were prior to the French Revolution, and they are all of high character and value. Since the commencement of that period, Spain has been the theatre of ferocious wars, and the physical and moral resources of the kingdom, and the character of the people amply tested and delineated in the military history of that country.

The more modern travellers are *Southey's Letters*, 1799. *Cushing's Reminiscences of Spain*, 2 vols., 1833, and *Slidell* on Spain, which he visited and revisited; total, 5 vols.

#### (6.) TRAVELS IN ITALY AND SICILY.

1. Moore's View of Society in Italy, 1776.
2. Eustace's Classical Tour in Italy, 1802.
3. Forsyth on Italy, 1802 and 1803.
4. Swinburne's Travels in the Kingdom of Naples and Sicily, 1777—1780, in 2 vols.
5. Brydone's Tour in Sicily and Malta, in 1770.

Italy has been inundated with a host of travellers, but I think those that have been selected, are among the most inte-

resting; and they are highly valuable and instructive. Those of Eustace and Swinburne evince great classical erudition, criticism and taste.

(7.) TRAVELS IN HOLLAND, BELGIUM, GERMANY  
AND SWITZERLAND.

1. Dr. J. Johnson's Excursions through France, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. New-York, 1834. Excellent.
2. Coxe's Travels in Switzerland. 3 vols. Published in London, in 1789. They give the most thorough examination of that most picturesque and romantic of all civilized countries.
3. J. F. Cooper's Travels in Switzerland, 2 vols. They are fair, liberal, and truly and graphically descriptive.
4. Moore's View of Society in Germany and Switzerland, 1775 and 1776.
5. Russell's Travels in Germany and Austria, 1820—1822. They have deservedly a very high reputation.
6. Lady Montague's Travels through Germany and Hungary to Constantinople, in 1716 and 1717. They are written with great vivacity and elegance.
7. Dwight's Travels in the North of Germany, 1825 and 1826.
8. Walsh's Journey from Constantinople to Vienna, in 1827.
9. Tour through Holland, in 1828. London. (Family Library.)
10. Simpson's and Scott's Visits to Belgium and Waterloo, in 1815.



## (8.) TRAVELS IN THE NORTH OF EUROPE.

1. Coxe's Travels in Poland, Russia, Sweden, and Denmark, 5 vols., 1794-5, &c. This work abounds in historical and biographical details.
2. Acerbi's Travels from Stockholm to the North Cape, in 1798 and 1799.
3. Clarke's Travels in Sweden and Russia, as well as in Asia Minor, Palestine and Greece, in 1800 and 1801.
4. Elliott's Travels in Sweden and Norway, 1830.
5. Laing's Residence in Norway, in 1834, 1835 and 1836.
6. Laing's Tour in Sweden, in 1838.
7. Van Troil's Letters on Iceland, 1772.
8. Sir G. Mackenzie's Travels in Iceland, 1810.
9. Henderson's Missionary Tour in Iceland, in 1814 and 1815.
10. Barrow's Visit to Norway and Iceland, in 1814.
11. Standish's Notices of the Northern Capitals, 1838.
12. Stevens' Incidents of Travel in Greece, Turkey, Russia and Poland, in 1835, 2 vols.

The books of Travels above selected, are most of them of sterling value, and calculated to delight and instruct every intelligent reader.

## (9.) TRAVELS IN WESTERN ASIA.

1. Clarke's Travels in Palestine, in connection with Egypt, Greece and the North of Europe, 4 vols.
2. Volney's Travels through Syria and Egypt, 1783—1795, 2 vols., 1798.  
They are distinguished for intelligence and accuracy.
3. Niebuhr's Travels in Arabia, 1761—1767; translated by Heron, in 2 vols., 1792. They maintain the highest reputation for accuracy and fulness of research.
4. Burckhardt's Travels in Nubia, 1813, 1 vol., 4to.
5. Burckhardt's Travels in Arabia, 1814, 2 vols. London, 1829.  
He was intrepid and accomplished as a traveller in Mahometan countries.
5. Morier's Journey through Persia, Armenia and Asia Minor, in 1808 and 1809, in a diplomatic character.
6. Kepple's Travels in Babylonia, Media, Georgia and Astracan, in 1824, in 2 vols.
7. Laborde's Journey to Mount Sinai and Petra, in 1828. London, 1838.
8. Stephens' Incidents of Travel in Egypt, Arabia and Petra, and the Holy Land, in 1836, 2 vols.
9. Addison's Journey from Malta to Greece, Constantinople, Smyrna, Rhodes, Syria, Damascus and Palmyra, in 1835, 2 vols.  
This last work is written with singular judgment, elegance and taste.

10. Smith and Dwight's Researches in Armenia, 1830 and 1831. Exceedingly instructive.
11. Jones' Excursions to Egypt and Syria, in 1834.
12. Wilbraham's Travels in Georgia and Caucasian Russia, in 1837.  
This traveller is distinguished for crossing and recrossing the snowy Caucasus.
13. Lindsay's Letters on Egypt, Edom, and the Holy Land, 2 vols., London, 1838.  
I do not know of a collection of books of travels, better calculated to command the attention, exercise the sympathies, and gratify the curiosity and taste of the reader, than those here enumerated on Western Asia.
14. Chateaubriand's Travels in Greece, Palestine, and Egypt, in 1806 and 1807, and translated by Shoberl. Philad., 1813; and  
Lamartine's Travels in the East, in 1832 and 1833, and published at Brussels, in 2 vols., 1835, are equally charged as being romantic and of a legendary cast; but they are most fascinating books, adorned with taste, elegance and learning, and full of the descriptive and pathetic eloquence, which the fire of genius and the ardor of christian enthusiasm inspire.

(10.) TRAVELS IN EASTERN ASIA AND AUSTRALIA.

1. Elphinstone's Embassy from Delhi in India to Cabul, in 1808, 1 vol., 4to.  
This was a diplomatic embassy from the East India British Government, and gives a very specific and authentic account of the Afghan tribes and empire.
2. Burnes' Travels in Upper India, and through the snowy range of the Hindoo Koosh or Himalaya Moun-

tains to Bokhara ; and a Passage also up the Indus in 1831—1833, 3 vols., London.

3. Bishop Heber's *Journeys* through the Upper and Southern Provinces of India, in 1824, 5, 6. 2 vols.
4. Symes' Public Embassy to the Capital of the Birman Empire, in 1795, 3 vols.
5. Malcolm's *Missionary Travels* in South Eastern Asia, in 1835-6.
6. Bell's *Travels* in 1720, from Petersburg to Peking. These have been referred to under the head of *History of the Asiatic and African Powers*.
7. Lord Macartney's Embassy to China, by Staunton, 1792, 3, 4. 2 vols.
8. Barrow's *Travels* in China, as attached to the same Embassy. Philad., 1805.
9. Lord Amherst's Embassy to China, by Ellis, 1816.  

These four last productions give us the best account, by intelligent and sagacious observers, of the manners and customs, and arts and learning, of a mean and semi-barbarous race, without any due sense of the obligations of humanity, justice or truth.
10. Oxley's *Expeditions* into the interior of New South Wales, in 1817 and 1818. 1 vol., 4to., London.
11. Mitchell's *Expeditions* into the same, 1831 and 1835. 2 vols., 8vo., London.
12. Leigh's *Travels* in South Australia, in 1836, 1 vol., 8vo., London.

These three last works, and particularly the two first, are

wonderfully well calculated to excite and gratify intense curiosity, as to the hidden recesses, and solitudes, and deserts, of a mighty and mysterious continent.

(11.) TRAVELS IN AFRICA.

1. Volney's Travels through Syria and Egypt; mentioned already.
2. Savary's Letters on Egypt, 1777. 2 vols.  
Beautifully and eloquently written, but too glowing and exaggerated.
3. Legh's Narrative of a Journey up the Nile into Nubia, in 1813.
4. Travels of Ali Bey, in 1803—1807, in Morocco, Egypt, Arabia, and Syria, 2 vols. The real traveller was Badia, a Spaniard; and he had the requisite accomplishments for the purpose.
5. Denon's Travels in Egypt with the French Army, published originally in Paris, in 1802, in 2 vols., folio. They were ushered into the world with great expense and magnificence, but are regarded as comparatively light and flippant. His relation of a visit by moonlight to a mouth of the Nile soon after Nelson's great victory, when the shores were covered with wrecks of the battle, and the bodies of the wretched victims, is eloquent, picturesque, and awful in the highest degree.
6. Bruce's Travels in Egypt, Nubia, and Abyssinia, to discover the Sources of the Nile, in 1768—1773, 6 vols., 8vo. The first and last, and especially the latter, are very interesting. He was an intrepid and faithful traveller, and modern writers of the first authority bear testimony to his general accuracy. Sir Wm. Jones said, that Bruce gave more accurate information concerning the nations from the fountains to the mouth of the Nile, than all Europe could have

supplied. The discovery of the head of the Nile was a great point among the ancients; and Julius Cæsar, according to Lucan, was willing to abandon all his ambitious projects, if he could thereby be enabled to make the discovery.

7. **W. G. Brown's Travels to Dar-Fur, from 1792 to 1798,** to discover the head of White River or the western branch of the Nile, as Bruce only followed up the eastern branch to its source. Brown was an excellent and extraordinary character.
8. **Salt's Travels in Abyssinia, in 1809 and 1810.** He went in the capacity of a public agent, and his travels are evidence of his judgment and scholarship. He was well received, and found some interesting vestiges of Christian faith and worship among a turbulent and savage people.
9. **Russell's Nubia and Abyssinia.** Harpers' Family Library.
10. **Lane's Account of Egypt, 2 vols., 8vo., 1836.**

All the accounts of Egypt are worth studying. That singular country has arrested the attention of mankind from the earliest records of sacred and profane history. The valley of the Nile is of exuberant and matchless fertility, though it is hammed in on each side by frightful deserts. The malediction of heaven seems to have attended Egypt from the time of the Pharaohs. It has excited the cupidity, and been the prey of conquerors and tyrants, for three thousand years. Its present condition is deplorable, under the stern administration of the most vigorous and remorseless of despots.
11. **Park's Travels into the Interior of Africa, 1795, 6, 7.**
12. **Park's Travels into the same, in 1805.**

13. Denham and Clapperton's Travels in Central Africa, in 1822, 1823 and 1824.
14. Clapperton and Lander's in the same in 1826.
15. Laird and Oldfield's Voyage into the same by Steam Vessels, in 1832, 3, 4.
16. Lempriere's Tour through the Kingdom of Morocco, in 1790.
17. Captain Tuckey's Expedition up the River Zaire, in 1816.
18. Captain Morrell's Third Voyage, containing Excursions into Western Africa, 1828, 1829.
19. Vaillant's Travels in S. Africa, in 1783, 4, 5, 3 vols.
20. Barrow's Travels in the same, 1797, 1798.  
This was official and very accurate.
21. Kay's Missionary Travels in Caffraria, in 1825, 6.
22. Alexander's Expedition into the Interior of S. Africa, 1836 and 1837, 2 vols.
23. Harris's Sporting Voyage into the same, 1836.

The various travellers into Central and Southern Africa, have excited a deep interest in the civilized world, but with the exception of the feeble settlement of Liberia, very little impression seems to have been made upon the numerous tribes of barbarians who inhabit the vast and unknown interior of that continent. The boundaries of the colony at the Cape of Good Hope are checked by fierce savages, and we are indebted to the few humble stations of the missionaries,

for the only vestiges of christianity and civilization which exist out of the colony, to cheer, like so many oases, the surrounding deserts.

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## V. VOYAGES.

### (1.) VOYAGES IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE AND NORTH PACIFIC.

The early *Spanish and Portuguese* voyages to the South Sea and round the world by Magellan, Sebastian Cano, Garcia de Loyosa, Sarvedra, Ulloa, Mendoza, Quivós, Garcia de Nodal; and the early *English* Voyages to the South Sea and round the globe by Drake, Cavendish, Sir John Hawkins, Sir John Narborough, Dampier, Cowley, Rogers, and Clipperton; and the early *Dutch* voyages to the South Sea by Spilberg, La Maire, Schouten, Le Hermite, Tasman, Vlaming, and Roggeveen, are all narrated in *Callender's Voyages to the Terra-Australis*, 3 vols., Edin., 1767. Many of the voyages are excellently well narrated, and are full of exciting interest, and discover great enterprise, daring, skill and judgment. The early voyages to the South Sea, and the early circumnavigators of the globe, are also well detailed in *Harpers' Family Library*, No. 30 and No. 82. See also *Burney's History of the discoveries in the Pacific Ocean*, from 1579 to 1723, 4 vols., 4to.

1. **Anson's Voyage, 1740—1744.** This work is elegantly written, and was, during the last generation, the most popular nautical production that had ever been written. Before Byron's voyage the great South Sea was regarded as one vast solitary ocean, without island or shelter, except the two small islands of *Juan Fernandez* and *Tinian* at each side of the Pacific, where Anson refreshed his exhausted crews. Each of them was regarded as a terrestrial paradise, planted there by Providence to alleviate the distresses and dangers incident to the navigation of that ocean.



**2. Hawkesworth's Voyages, consisting of**

1. Byron's Voyage, in 1764.
2. Wallis' Voyage, in 1766.
3. Carteret's Voyage, 1766.
4. Cook's First Voyage, 1768—1771.

**3. Bourgainville's Voyage, 1766—1769.****4. Cook's Second Voyage, 1772—1775.****5. Cook's Third Voyage, 1776—1780.**

This last voyage was one of the most interesting and valuable. The introduction by Dr. Douglass, afterwards Bishop of Salisbury, has been greatly admired.

**6. La Perouse's Voyage, 1785—1788, 2 vols., 8vo.** One of the most unfortunate of all the efforts at nautical discovery, and awakens the deepest sympathy.**7. Vancouver's Voyage of Discovery in the N. Pacific, 1791—1795, 6 vols., 8vo.** This great voyage was performed with admirable skill, discipline, perseverance and success.**8. Wilson's Missionary Voyage, 1796—1798, 1 vol., 4to.****9. Trumbull's Voyage, in 1800—1804, 3 vols., 12mo., London.****10. Porter's Cruise in the Pacific, in 1812—1814, 2 vols.****11. Tyerman and Bennet's Missionary Voyages, 1821—1829, 3 vols., Boston.****12. Beechy's Voyage to the Pacific, 1825—1828.**

This was a voyage under the orders of the British Government, to co-operate with the Polar Expeditions beyond Behring's Strait.

**13. Waddell's Voyage towards the South Pole, 1822—1824. London, 1825.**

This was a private trading voyage, and the others above mentioned, except those under Nos. 8, 9, 11, were under government commissions. Captain Waddell penetrated the antarctic sea to latitude 74, which was three degrees further south than Cook or any preceding navigator had penetrated.

**14. Morrell's Voyages in the Southern Hemisphere in America, Africa and Asia, between 1822 and 1831. These were private trading voyages, but performed with admirable skill, and with enthusiastic spirit and enterprise.**

**15. Owen's Voyages to the Coasts of Southern Africa and Madagascar, 1823—1826, 2 vols. They were skilfully and resolutely executed, under great peril and deplorable sickness, in the most sickly and hateful of shores.**

**16. Stewart's Voyage as a Missionary to the Sandwich Islands, 1823—1825, 1 vol.**

**17. Stewart's Voyage in the Vincennes, 1829, 1830, 2 vols.**

**18. Reynold's Voyage in the Frigate Potomac, around the globe, 1831—1834.**

**19. Ruschenberger's Voyage in the Ship Peacock, around the globe, 1835—1837.**

**20. Surveying Voyages, by Captain King and Captain Fitzroy, on the Coasts of South America, 1826—1836, 3 vols., London.**

It would be difficult to point out any course of reading relative to the active concerns of mankind, better calculated to amuse and instruct the reader, than the series of voyages I have mentioned. The management of those little commu-

nities, the ships with their crews, brings into view the noblest endowments of the mind and heart. Such voyages have peril and incident, sufficient to keep curiosity, joy and sympathy, in perpetual action. They enlarge, with wonderful facility and despatch, our knowledge of the globe and its physical phenomena, its vegetable and animal productions, and they exhibit living pictures of human nature in all its shades of rudeness and barbarity. They enkindle a disposition and zeal to cultivate intercourse and trade with new and distant nations; to introduce among them the useful arts, and to make them acquainted with the social and religious institutions of civilized life.

(2.) VOYAGES IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE.

1. Forster's History of Northern Voyages and Discoveries from 1497 to 1769, Dublin, 1786.
2. Coxe's Account of Russian Discoveries, between Asia and America, London, 1737.
3. Captain Phipp's Voyage to the Polar Regions, in 1773, annexed to Cook's First Voyage.
4. Discoveries in the Polar Seas and Regions, by Leslie, Jameson, and Murray. Harpers' Family Library, No. 14.
5. Tytler's Discoveries on the Northern Coasts of America. Harpers' Family Library, No. 53.
6. Ross's Voyage to Baffin's Bay, in 1818.
7. Parry's First Voyage to Baffin's Bay and Winter Harbor, 1819—1820.
8. Parry's Second Voyage to Hudson's Bay, 1821, 1822, 1823.

9. **Parry's Third Voyage to Prince Regent's Inlet, 1824—1825.**

10. **Ross's Second Voyage in search of a N. W. Passage, 1829—1833.**

For intrepidity, skill, perseverance and suffering, these voyages of Ross and Parry are unparalleled. Nor did the severities of an arctic winter, ever appear in more unmitigated horror. Nor were the utmost efforts of human contrivance ever more uselessly expended.

## VI. BIOGRAPHY.

### (1.) AMERICAN.

1. **Sparks's Life and Writings of Washington**, 12 vols., 1837. Nothing can equal, at least to an American reader, the interest and excellence of this work : its perfect accuracy and impartiality, and the simplicity, greatness and grandeur of Washington's character.
2. **Marshall's Life of Washington**, in 3 vols., Phil., 1834. This work is very authentic and accurate, except the first volume on Colonial History. It is written with great simplicity and perspicuity, but it has lost much of its interest and attraction since the appearance of Sparks' immortal work.
3. **Sparks' Works of Franklin, with his Life**, 10 vols., Boston, 1836—9. Here is the historical portrait, admirably designed, of another American statesman, of pre-eminent good sense and simplicity of character, and whose fair fame has shed lustre on his country.  
 Sparks' *Franklin's Life and Writings*, abridged, 2 vols., 1839. *Harpers' Family Library*.

4. **The Life of John Jay, by his Son, 2 vols., N. Y., 1833.**
5. **Sparks' Life of Gouverneur Morris, 3 vols., Boston, 1832.**
6. **The Life of William Livingston, by Sedgwick, N. Y., 1833.**
7. **The Life of Alexander Hamilton, by his Son, New-York, 1834. Only one volume has as yet appeared.**

These four last biographical works contain the lives of illustrious statesmen, who have adorned the annals of this country, and rendered their names immortal by their services, their patriotism, and their distinguished talents, in the great crisis of the American revolution.
8. **Hosack's Memoir of De Witt Clinton, New-York, 1829, 4to.**
9. **Wheaton's Life of William Pinckney, New-York, 1826.**
10. **Wirt's Life of Patrick Henry, Phil., 1826.**
11. **Tudor's Life of Otis, Boston, 1823.**
12. **Sparks' Life of Ledyard the Traveller, Cambridge, 1828.**
13. **Stone's Life of Brant, 2 vols.**
14. **Belknap's American Biography, 2 vols., 1794—1798.**
15. **Sparks' American Biography, 10 vols., Boston.**

There are many other biographical sketches, and principally of characters in private, professional, and literary life,

well worth perusing; but I have limited the selection to public men.

## (2.) EUROPEAN.

A few only of the most interesting works of the kind can be selected.

1. **Boswell's Life of Johnson, 3 vols., edit., 1792.**  
Boswell's Life of Johnson, edited by Croker, 2 vols. New-York, 1833.
2. **Middleton's Life of Cicero.** See above under the head of Roman History, No. 8.
3. **Prior's Life of Burke, 1825.**
4. **Prior's Life of Goldsmith, 1837.**
5. **Southey's Life of Nelson, (Fam. Lib.)** The most delightful and perhaps the most durable of all Southey's productions.
6. **Southey's Life of Cowper, 2 vols.**
7. **Lord Dover's Life of Frederick of Prussia, 2 vols.** Harpers' Family Library, No. 41.
8. **Cumberland's Memoirs, written by himself, 1806.**
9. **Life and Correspondence of Lord Collingwood, 1829.**
10. **Otter's Life of Ed. D. Clarke, 1827.**
11. **Sir Wm. Forbes' Life of Beattie, 1806.**
12. **Condorcet's Life of Turgot, 1787.**
13. **Life of Sir Wm. Jones, by Lord Teignmouth.**

14. Life of Sir Humphrey Davy, by his Brother, 2 vols.
15. Life of Burns, by Dr. Currie.  
Life of Burns, by Lockhart.
16. Life of Sir Walter Scott, by Lockhart, in 2 vols. The most impressive and instructive life, and one that awakens the tenderest sympathies.
17. Life of Mrs. Siddons, by Campbell.
18. Life of Telford, written by himself. London, 1838.
19. Life of Charles Lamb, by Talfourd, 2 vols., 1837.
20. The Despatches of the Duke of Wellington, 12 vols., 8vo., compiled by Gurwood, London, 1838. The most authentic and valuable of biographical productions. It is analogous to Sparks' Life and Writings of Washington.
21. The Autobiographical Life of Gibbon, in the first volume of his miscellaneous works, is most delightful and most instructive, as to the value of time, and the growing stimulus of genius.
22. The Annual Biography from 1807 to 1837, in 21 vols., contains valuable sketches of the great men who have flourished since the beginning of the present century.
23. Lord Brougham's Sketches of eminent Statesmen under George 3d.
24. Cunningham's Lives of the most eminent Painters. Harpers' Family Library, 6 vols.
25. Bishop Heber's Life, by his Widow, 2 vols., New-York, 1830.

26. Life of Sir Isaac Newton, by Brewster.  
Harpers' Family Library.
27. Johnson's Lives of the Poets, 4 vols. The  
most interesting of all his works.
28. Life of Calvin, by Waterman, Hartford, 1813.
29. Stewart's Life of Dr. Robertson.
30. Russell's Life of Cromwell, 2 vols. Harpers'  
Family Library, 1839.
31. In the Harpers' Family Library. No. 38, 39,  
40, there is a sketch of the lives of the most celebrated mo-  
dern travellers. And here it may not be amiss to observe,  
that the American public are greatly indebted to the *Messrs.*  
*Harpers*, for their enterprise, judgment and taste, in afford-  
ing cheap and neat editions of the most popular works in  
the English language. All their selected editions are of  
books distinguished for purity and taste.
32. Wilberforce's Life, by his Son, 4 vols., 8vo.,  
London, 1838.
33. Scott's Biographical Memoirs of eminent  
Novelists, 2 vols. See his works, vols. 3 and 4.
34. Scott's Life of Swift, 1 vol., (Prose Works,  
Vol. 2.)
35. Scott's Life of Dryden, 1 vol., (Prose Works,  
Vol. 1.)
36. Roscoe's Life of Cervantes, 1839.



## VII. POETRY.

1. Shakspeare's Dramatic Works.
2. Milton ; especially his *Paradise Lost*, *l'Allegro*, and *Il Penseroso*, and *Comus*.
3. Dryden. The best specimens are his *Fables*, *Alexander's Feast*, *Absalom and Architophel*, and the dramatic pieces of *Don Sebastian* and *All for Love*, and some parts of his versions of Ovid and the *Æneid*.
4. Butler's *Hudibras*.
5. Parnell. *The Hermit*.
6. Addison. *Letter from Italy* ; *To Sir Godfrey Kneller* ; *The Campaign* ; *Hymns* ; *Cato's Tragedy*.
7. Tickell. *Elegy* addressed to the Earl of Warwick.
8. Pope. His poetical works generally. 'His quick and critical judgment was masterly, and the harmony and melody of his verse unrivalled.
9. Thomson. *The Seasons* ; *The Castle of Indolence*.
10. Collins' *Odes* and *Pastorals*, or *Oriental Eclogues*. Nothing can surpass their exquisite pathos and beautiful simplicity.
11. Tasso and Ariosto, translated into English verse by Hoole and Rose.
12. Young. *Night Thoughts* on Life, Death and Immortality ; Paraphrase on part of the *Book of Job* ; *Tragedy of Zengis*.

13. Gray. *On a Prospect of Eton College ; The Bard ; The Progress of Poesy ; Elegy in a Country Church Yard.*
14. Goldsmith. *Traveller ; Deserted Village ; Retaliation.*
15. Johnson. *London ; Vanity of Human Wishes.*
16. Beattie. *The Minstrel ; The Hermit.*
17. Cowper. *The Task.*
18. Burns. Among many may be mentioned the following poems as excellent, viz. *The Vision ; The Cotter's Saturday Night ; Tam O'Shanter ; The Two Dogs ; The Brigs of Ayr, &c. &c. &c.*
19. Campbell. *Pleasures of Hope ; Gertrude of Wyoming.*
20. Rogers. *Pleasures of Memory ; Italy.*
21. Crabbe. *The Borough.*
22. Southey. His poetical works are in 10 vols., London, 1838. *Thalaba and Roderick.*
23. Scott. *The Lay of the Last Minstrel ; Marmion ; The Lady of the Lake.*
24. Wordsworth's Poetical Works, 6 vols. *The Excursion* stands in the first rank. His works are increasing in public estimation.
25. Byron's Poetical Works. *Childe Harold ; The Giaour ; The Bride of Abydos ; The Corsair.*

The above list might, no doubt, be judiciously enlarged; but I can only select those with which I am best acquainted. Many fine passages in them will be stamped upon the memory of every person of feeling and taste who reads poetry, and assist to cheer and delight his meditations, in every period and vicissitude of life.

Among American poets, especially contemporaries, I dare not undertake to decide, but limit myself to a recommendation of the works of two only, townsmen of our own, *F. G. Halleck* and *W. C. Bryant*. The lyrical pieces and *jeux d'esprit* of the first, are distinguished for their beautiful imagery, poignant wit and polished diction. The merits of the latter are of a different character, but not of an inferior order. His poetry, pure and elegant in language, and pervaded by an intense sympathy with all the varied beauties of inanimate nature, sinks deep into the heart of the reader.

## VIII. PROSE FICTIONS.

1. Dunlop's History of Fiction, 3 vols., 12mo., Edinburgh, 1816.
2. Don Quixote.
3. Gil Blas.
4. Telemachus.
5. Richardson. His *Clarissa* and *Sir Charles Grandison*. The former has been regarded as his master piece; and Rousseau was of opinion that there was no romance in any language to be compared to it. Richardson was distinguished for the purity of his morals, his deep knowledge of the human heart, his minute and thorough delineation of character, and his powers of pathetic description. The thread of his story is excessively prolix, and his narration is so slow

as to vex the reader, and his characters too stiff and formal to suit the taste and manners of the age, and these novels are accordingly laid on the upper shelf. But *Clarissa* is an admirable novel, and the madness of *Clementina* in *Sir Charles* is full of exquisite strokes of nature and passion. Dr. Wharton says it is equal to the madness of *Lear*.

6. Fielding and Smollett's Novels. They contain the most just and lively delineations of society and manners in common and familiar life, during the reigns of George 1st and 2d. They abound in striking incident, brilliant wit and humor, and bold and graphic paintings of character. Fielding is supposed to have been next to Shakspeare in wit and knowledge of mankind, and his *Tom Jones* has the genius and contrivance of an epic poem. But these celebrated romance writers partook of the gross and licentious taste too prevalent in that age; and we recur with satisfaction to subsequent novelists, who "bear no tokens of those sable streams."
7. Johnson's *Rasselas*.
8. Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield*.
9. Mackenzie's *Man of Feeling*.
10. Moore's *Zeluco* and *Mordaunt*.
11. Mrs. Radcliff's *Mysteries of Udolpho*, and *The Italian*.
12. Crabbe's Tales.  
Mrs. Opie's Tales of Real Life.
13. Godwin's *Caleb Williams*. A most interesting fiction; and the scenes are painted with prodigious force, and strike the reader with awe and solemnity. But the story is a monstrous exaggeration, and a libel on the law and institutions of society. In 1796, this work was laid under the interdict of the imperial censor at Vienna.

14. Brown's *Wieland* and *Ormond* are American productions of great energy, but of a grave character.
  15. Maria Edgeworth's *Tales and Romances*. See her works in eighteen 8vo. vols.
  16. Sir Walter Scott's *Novels*, 48 vols., Edinburgh. Every volume—every page is to be read. What novel, or what dialogue is there in Scott, over which the reader may not pause and admire?
  17. Irving's *Tales and Romances*.
  18. Cooper's *Novels*.
  19. *Novels* by Dickens, under the name of Boz.
  20. Bulwer's *Rienzi*, *Pompeii*, *Athens*. He is celebrated for his genius, enthusiasm, and power of description; but he is deficient in practical good sense, and simple delineation of the characters and sympathies that belong to actual life.
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## IX. SCIENCE.

It would be well for every young gentleman to have a *general* knowledge of the popular branches of science, and I have selected a few prominent works in some of its departments.

1. Buffon's *Natural History*, by Smellie.  
See also an abridged edition, 4 vols., Boston, 1833.
2. Goldsmith's *History of Animated Nature*.
3. Buckland's *Geology and Mineralogy*, 2 vols., London, 1836. Most admirable and impressive.

4. Bakewell's Introduction to Geology, New-Haven, 1838.
5. Lyell's Geology, 2 vols., Philadelphia, 1836.
6. Darwin's Geological Researches on his voyage with Captain Fitzroy.
7. Cuvier's Theory of the Earth, New-York, 1818.
8. Cuvier's Comparative Anatomy.
9. Professor Olmsted on Natural Philosophy.  
New-Haven.  
Professor Olmsted on Astronomy.
10. Herschel's Treatise on Natural Philosophy.  
Herschel's Treatise on Astronomy.
11. Whewell on Astronomy and General Physics, Philad., 1833.
12. Renwick on the Steam Engine.
13. Porter's Progress of the English Nation in Transportation, London, 1838.

## X. CONSTITUTIONAL AND COMMERCIAL LAW.

The elements of the sciences comprehended under this head, are quite important to every member.

1. The Federalist, by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay, in 1 vol., 8vo. This is the best treatise that ever was writ-

ten on republican government—the most true, the most instructive and the most monitory. It is the most instructive book that ever was written on the necessity and value of the union of the States; and on the cherished hope entertained by those immortal patriots, that it might break and control the violence of faction, the mortal disease under which popular governments have every where perished.

2. Story's Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States, 3 vols. Just and true.
3. Tocqueville's Democracy in America. It is a work of profound observation and contains most wholesome admonition.
4. Azuni's Maritime Law of Europe, 2 vols., 8vo., 1806.
5. Abbott on Shipping, Story's edition.
6. Commercial Code of France.

[The Board of Directors have taken the liberty to suggest, without consultation with the author—

7. "Kent's Commentaries on American Law," as eminently deserving the attention of every American.]

## XI. ELEMENTS OF MORAL SCIENCE.

The elements of Moral Philosophy ought to be studied, and duly appreciated, by every member of society.

1. Paley's Moral Philosophy.
2. Wayland's Elements of Moral Science.
3. Mackintosh on the Progress of Ethical Philosophy.

4. Brown's Philosophy of the Human Mind.
  5. Abercrombie on the Moral Feelings. (Family Library.)
  6. Dr. Lieber's Political Ethics.
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## XII. EVIDENCES OF NATURAL AND REVEALED RELIGION.

1. Paley's Evidences of Natural Religion.  
Paley's Evidences of Christianity.  
Paley's Horæ Paulinæ.
2. The Bridgewater Treatises. There are eight in number, and those of Dr. Buckland, and the Rev. Mr. Whewell, already mentioned, take the first rank.
3. Verplanck on the Evidences of Christianity.
4. Butler's Analogy.
5. Watson's Apology for Christianity.
6. Watson's Apology for the Bible.
7. Lardner's Credibility of the Gospel History.
8. Newton on the Prophecies.
9. Dr. Spring on the Obligations of the World to the Bible.



